

Message Text

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64

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 EB-11 SCI-06 SCEM-02 COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00

SIL-01 LAB-06 AGR-20 NEA-10 DRC-01 /161 W

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R 181500Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5234

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS DUBLIN 1665

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON, ENRG, EI

SUBJ: IRISH GOVERNMENT PREPARING EMERGENCY PLANS

1. IRISH MEDIA DECEMBER 17 REPORT GOI PREPARING EMERGENCY ECONOMIC PLANS IF FUEL SHORTAGES AND RELATED PROBLEMS (MAINLY BRITISH CUTBACKS) REQUIRE. DEPARTMENTS INVOLVED INCLUDE INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE, TRANSPORT AND POWER, LABOR, AND AGRICULTURE.

2. IN RADIO INTERVIEW, MINISTER FOR INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE KEATING SAID SHORTAGES WERE ALREADY ADVERSELY AFFECTING EMPLOYMENT. HE NOTED HIGHER PRICES WOULD HAVE TO BE PAID FOR OIL AND PREDICTED 25 PERCENT SHORTAGE OF FUEL IN RELATION TO ANTICIPATED DEMAND NEXT SPRING. KEATING SAID THREE-DAY WORK WEEK LATER IN SPRING COULD NOT RPT NOT BE RULED OUT AND UNCLASSIFIED

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SPOKE OF MOVING TO "WAR ECONOMY."

3. IRISH TIMES REPORTED PRIME MINISTER COSGRAVE WAS CLEARLY DISAPPOINTED BY HIS EC COLLEAGUES UNWILLINGNESS TO MAKE SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS TOWARD MEETING ARAB DEMANDS FOR GREATER PRESSURE ON ISRAEL. TIMES SAID IT WAS IRONICAL THAT IRELAND MAY BE CONSIDERED FRIENDLY BY ARABS BUT MUST BE BOUND BY EC DECISIONS NOT TO GIVE WAY TO THREATS OF EVEN MORE SEVERE REDUCTIONS IN OIL SUPPLIES. GOI ALSO REPORTEDLY CONSIDERS US RESPONSIBLE FOR ISRAELI INTRANSIGENCE, LEADING TO RECENT MID-EAST WAR.

4. WITH WELL OVER HALF IRISH TRADE GOING TO AND COMING FROM THE U.K., IRELAND IS VERY DEEPLY WORRIED OVER DRASTIC ECONOMIC RESTRAINTS BEING INTRODUCED BY BRITISH GOVERNMENT. BRITISH CUTS WILL IMPACT ON IMPORTS VITAL TO IRISH INDUSTRY AND MAIN IRISH EXPORT MARKET. THEY COULD WELL GENERATE STREAMS OF IRISH WORKERS RETURNING FROM BRITAIN TO IRELAND TO SEEK EMPLOYMENT. HOPES FOR CARRYING FORWARD IRELAND'S REVIVED ECONOMIC GROWTH PROSPECTS (6 PERCENT THIS YEAR) ARE CLEARLY DIMMING. MOORE

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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30 JUN 2005

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